

**Governmental Affairs Committee  
Regular Meeting  
February 3, 2003-8:00 a.m.  
Tribal Office Board Room**

1. **Call to Order & Roll Call-**

Committee Chairperson Sylvia Wilber called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m. Those present: Kathy Kaquatosh, Annette Warrington and Jeremy Weso. Ben Kaquatosh and Ann Marie Johnson were absent and Jeremy Weso came in the place of Ann Marie. John Wilhelmi was also present for the meeting.

2. **Moment of Silence** - A moment of silence was observed.

3. **Review Minutes Dated January 6, 2003-**

**Motion made by Annette Warrington to approve the minutes dated January 6, 2003. Motion was seconded by Kathy Kaquatosh. All those in favor signify by saying aye, 3-for, 0-opposed, 1-absent. Motion carried.**

4. **TERO Discussion-**

TERO stands for Tribal Employment Rights Office and at the last meeting the issue was discussed. Chairperson Wilber is concerned because tribal people are going to the college and getting specialized training and they aren't even working on projects the tribe is paying for. Rather, many tribal people must go off the reservation to look for work and it isn't right.

Program Attorney John Wilhelmi gave the committee members a copy of the ordinance and that Oglala Sioux tribe uses. John stated that the tribe has two mechanisms for giving preference to Tribal members. Ordinance 82-10 requires that Menominee's are given preference to hiring within the tribe and the tribe's accounting procedures manual requires Menominee's are given preference when placing bids with the Tribe as independent contractors.

Chairperson Wilber stated that they need to go a step further and that contractors need to look at the people living on the reservation no matter what tribe they are from and it needs to be in their contract.

Chairperson Wilber would like to see a pool of names somewhere like Human Resources where there are names of people and what they are qualified in. If a job should arise the contractor would go down the list to see who is qualified to fill that position.

Committee members stated that they need to work with MTE, MISD, College of the Menominee Nation etc to make sure they would follow along with the contractor hiring.

**Motion made by Kathy Kaquatosh to go further with the contract language and TERO in accordance with the memo from John Wilhelmi. Motion was seconded by Annette Warrington. All those in favor signify by saying aye, 3-for, 0-opposed, 1-absent. Motion carried.**

5. **Collection Policy Update-**

Kathy stated that she and Ann Marie Johnson are still working on the policy. Kathy stated that one problem that is going on is departments aren't sharing information. Kathy gave an example of a tribal member that owes the tribe \$2,000.00 for something in the past and is making no attempts at trying to pay the tribe back but yet he went to the loan fund and was able to obtain a loan through that department.

Kathy stated that the problem is occurring with many departments. People go from one program to another creating further debt they aren't willing to pay.

Annette Warrington suggested that maybe a database can be created and those departments that deal with accounts receivable and have past due debts can have access to the database, add the name in and then the next department can look it up when the person goes to a different department for services.

Kathy is also having difficulty with the departments in getting straight answers regarding their accounts receivable. Jeremy Weso stated that the many of the directors don't understand accounts receivable and maybe their needs to be training for every department.

Kathy and Ann Marie will continue working on developing a collection policy and keep the committee updated.

6. **Other Business-**

No other business was discussed although Chairperson Wilber expressed her thanks to everyone for their hard work on the committee and wished everyone the best of luck with whoever the new Chairperson of the Committee may be.

7. **Adjournment-**

**Motion made by Kathy Kaquatosh to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Annette Warrington. All those in favor signify by saying aye, 3-for, 0-opposed, 1-absent. Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Legislative Staff Services